

GANDERBONE'S August Forecast.

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It was August the third,
And quite soft were the skies,
And it might be imagined
Bill Taft was likewise;
Yet he played it that day upon
Bryan

In a way politicians despise.
Which they met on the train,
As all candidates will,
And they wagered a dinner
In test of their skill—
The winner to make the best
put on
The homely cognomen of Bill.

"I suppose," Bryan said,
Stirring ice in his tea,
"That in view of the times,
As between you and me,
The smaller the bill is the better,
The which any one will
agree."

"Very clever," said Taft,
Here is mine: I've a hunch,
You are not very strong,
(And he gave him a punch),
For they don't like a long over-
due bill!"

And the Peerless One paid for
the lunch.

August was named for Au-
gustus Caesar, nephew and
adopted son of Julius. August
was every bit as great a man,
but his uncle had a better press
bureau. When the Black Band
got Julius, his nephew was but
19; but he had already worn the
toga virilis and shot a bear.
Mark Anthony tried to get him
out of the way by making him
a sort of vice-president, but after
Augustus had beaten him 5 up
and 2 to play on the green at
Modena, the big drawing card
of the Roman chautauqua was
glad to marry the young man's
sister and be a kind of Nick
Longworth around the Roman
White House.

The Augustan age was the
glory of Rome. Like Mr. Roose-
velt, Augustus showed fight all
the time, and the empire en-
joyed peace. There were no re-
formers, and times were good.
The emperor liberally patronized
literature, and even wrote verses
himself. Poets like Horace and
Virgil had their own enameled
gold chariots with liveried allig-
ator bait on the job behind, and
instead of having the cruel cir-
cus games of Nero, the populace
met in the coliseum and wrote
limericks for prizes. It is said
that Augustus found Rome a
city of brick, and left it a city
of marble. He was a very proud
man, and in order to make his
month as long as anybody's,
they took a day from February
and added it to August, which
originally had but thirty. Au-
gustus deserves to be better
known, and it is not his fault
that he is not. He tried every-
thing from divorce to race sui-
cide. He had three wives and
one child, a daughter Julia. He
beat Antony and Cleopatra 9 to 0
in the famous engagement at
Actium, enough in itself to have
left his name upon a 10-cent
cigar; but he stood about the
same chance against the luster
of his illustrious uncle as Miss
Ethel Roosevelt stands to share
the limelight with her sister
Alice.

The dog days will return to paint
The pond like Erin's isle,
And the boys will navigate the
scum
In good sea-going style;

Reform will dig a few more pits
For brewers and distillers,
And the office-seeker pass
around
His bum alfalfa fillers.

The bullfrog will essay his lay
along the winding creek, and
the dude will bite the summer
girl upon her damask cheek;
the sun will burn the festive
tramp clear through his under-
shirt, and Carrie Nation will
give tongue, and kick up sod
and dirt, the while her ladyship
pursues the new directoire skirt.

The candidates will buzz
around before the voter's door,
and all the babies will get kissed
and snuggled up some more; the
mother will say, "Ain't he nice!"
with every kiss and hug, but
the father will declare he's a
dern old kissing bug.

The Anna-mosity which the
Count Boni de Castellane and
Prince Helle de Sagan bear one
another will cool a little, and
about the 15th they will get to-
gether and shoot dice for the
Gould children. The fleet will
continue to banquet across the
Pacific by easy stages, and upon
reaching Manila the stomachs
of the officers will be put in dry
dock and scraped.

The baby calf will try his legs
In meadows soft as silk,
And when he bawls his loving
dam

Will rush the mother's milk;
And meanwhile she will smile
to think,

With many modest blushes,
How Moses could have ever
lived

In nothing but bullrushes.

After the 21st, August will be
under the zodiacal sign of virgo.
This will make chautauqua
crowds restless, and outdoor
orators will have to follow them
around through the woods and
talk to them when they will
stand. It will also cause Mr.
Rockefeller to get busy on that
story of his life he is going to
write for one of the national
mothlies, and monopoly will get
so nervous it will have a trained
nurse and take nourishment
through a funnel. Mr. Roose-
velt will meanwhile call a spe-
cial meeting of the cabinet at
Sagamore Hill, and will issue a
proclamation declaring that the
best way to catch lions is to set
up a sand seive on the desert,
shovel the sand in, and take the
lions out of the seive.

Persons born under Virgo have
domestic tastes, and know how
to hold a baby. They are very
bright, and know what the pre-
sidential issue is. They are san-
guine in temperament, and be-
lieve the worst is over. They
abuse their stomachs, and will
eat anything that doesn't bite
them first.

The presidential campaign
will be confined to a few social
functions. On the 19th Mr.
Roosevelt will give a lawn fete
at Oyster Bay in honor of
"Sunny Jim" Sherman's whis-
kers, and the guests will be given
an opportunity to hear the sea
breeze blow through them. On
the 26th Mr. Bryan will give a
corn-silk party at Fairview, in
honor of his running mate, Mr.
Kern. Everybody will wear
corn-silk whiskers, and a year's
subscription to The Commoner
will be given the guest wearing
the best duplicate of Mr. Kern's.
The planet Mars will be the
evening star until the 22d, and
the moon will be full on the
11th, the Anti-Saloon League
willing.

And then September will return
With autumn breezes cool,
And the tearful boy will cuss
his luck
And hipper back to school.

Editor Told the Truth.

Miss Vey Morgan, daughter
of J. L. Morgan, editor of the
Waurika (Okla.) News, was
married recently to N. L. Reed,
a young business man of that
place. The editor, in giving an
account of the wedding, says:

"For the first time in our life
we have the privilege of writing
the announcement of the mar-
riage of our own daughter, and
we do not have to write a lot of
stuff that we don't believe about
the blushing bride, etc. Time
can tell whether either one of
them is entitled to congratula-
tions. We only hope that they
may never regret their actions,
and if they do they can blame
themselves, as they have made
their choice. They also have
our best wishes. Our advice we
are not going to offer, because it
would not be accepted at what
we would consider it worth."

Fruit and Sugar for Horses

Grain is not the only food on
which the horse thrives. In
Egypt the Khedive's best mares
are fed largely on currants, and
these fruit-fed animals are noted
for their endurance and speed.
Figs, during the fig harvest,
form the food of the horses of
Smyrna; they turn to it from
oats or hay. The green tops of
the sugarcane are fed to the
horses of the West Indies, and
for long weeks, in many parts
of Canada, windfall apples form
the horse's only food. In Tas-
mania peaches and in Arabia
dates take the place of the usual
hay and oats, corn and bran.



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